

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 9, and 14 by rewriting as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for preventing the spread of disease through a knife when cutting seed potatoes by eliminating said knife and for cutting seed potatoes for planting with a liquid comprising the steps of:

- supplying seed potatoes for planting;
- sizing said seed potatoes by separating seed potatoes for cutting into seed;
- moving said seed potatoes to a lower conveyor having a first end and a second end said conveyor having a V shaped belt for grasping the lower portion of said seed potato;
- conveying said seed potatoes on said lower conveyor starting at said first end of said lower conveyor to contact with an upper conveyor having a first end and a second end, said first end of said upper conveyor being forward of said first end of said lower conveyor and said second end being forward of said second end of said lower conveyor, said upper conveyor having a V shaped belt for grasping the upper portion of said seed potato;
- supplying a chamber between said upper and lower conveyor with a water jet passing across said chamber;
- grasping said seed potatoes between said upper and lower conveyor and moving said seed potatoes for cutting through said water jet; and
- cutting said seed potato completely through with said water jet.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1 wherein the spent water from said water jet cut is collected by a discharge tube.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 2 wherein the water used by said water jet contains a chemical additive.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3 wherein at least two water jets are used to make multiple cuts on said seed potatoes.

5. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 1.

6. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 2.

7. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 3

8. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 4.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for cutting seed potatoes and of preventing the spread of disease caused by a cutting knife by eliminating the use of said knife comprising the steps of:

supplying seed potatoes for planting;

sizing said seed potatoes by separating seed potatoes for cutting into seed using a sorter;

moving said seed potatoes to a lower conveyor having a first end and a second end said conveyor having a V shaped belt for grasping the lower portion of said seed potato;

conveying said seed potatoes on said lower conveyor starting at said first end of said lower conveyor to contact with an upper conveyor having a first end and a second end, said first end of said upper conveyor being forward of said first end of said lower conveyor and said second end being forward of said second end of said lower conveyor, said upper conveyor having a V shaped belt for grasping the upper portion of said seed potato;

supplying said upper conveyor with hinge point between said first and second end of said upper conveyor such that said upper

conveyor may articulate;

holding said seed potatoes in a stable position between said upper and said lower conveyor;

moving said seed potatoes for cutting through at least one high pressure water jet, by turning said lower and upper conveyors; and

cutting said seed potato completely through with said high pressure water jet.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein a liquid source is supplied to said high pressure water jet.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 10 wherein the spent liquid from the high pressure water jet cut is directed away from said high pressure water jet by a discharge tube.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11 wherein the termination point of said water jet is supplied by said discharge tube.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein at least two water jets are used to make multiple cuts on said seed potatoes.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim ~~9~~ 10 wherein said liquid source contains water and a chemical additive.

15. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 9.

16. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 10.

17. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim
11

18. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim
12.

19. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim
13.

20. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim
14.